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ONE KOREA

ROK Woodcutters Killed by Trigger-

Happy U.S. Soldiers

Chang Myun and Park Chung-Hee

Governments Compared

Death Confirmed for Chairman

of Bereaved Families Ass.

Pres. Yun Repels Park's Remarks

on Government Transfer

No. 9

March 1962

Our Aims and Demands

Liberation from Japanese Imperialism did not bring complete freedom and independence to Korea. Instead, the Big Powers of the world split the Korean territory and nation into two countries. And to this day, the Korean people have been suffering for sixteen long years under the most piteous and distressing conditions. Not only have we constantly wandered on the brinks of death, pressed by poverty and oppression, but we at last had to commit the most shameful mistake in our history: Incited by foreign powers, we Koreans engaged ourselves in the horrible task of killing our own brothers during that tragical Korean War. Yet, in spite of all these sufferings and injustices, the Korean people obediently held trust in the good faiths of the Big Powers, and solely believed that they would carve out the future of Korea for us.

But today we have finally realized our stupidity. We know well now that we must carve out our own destiny with our own hands, that is, the Korean nation must realize unification of Korea by the nation's own powers if it is willing to live. And the people's uprising in April last year which overthrew that most atrocious government of all times, the Syngman Rhee regime, without borrowing any aid from others, has given us the confidence that we can accomplish this aspiration.

We, as members of the Korean nation and campaigners for the unification movement, urged by such consciousness and confidence, propose here that our Independent and Peaceful Unification shall commence by conducting mutual contact and exchange between the North and South Korean people. Whereby, we are sure, brotherly love will be renewed and North and South negotiations invited; thus enabling concrete plans for unification to be worked out. We also believe that the unification must be not only the unification of the Korean territories but also of the divided nation. And in order to reflect the true will of the entire nation on the unification, we call for a Free General Elections to be held throughout North and South Korea; and through these elections, a Unified Central Government shall be established. From these standpoints, we demand:

1) *To immediately open up exchanges of letters, civilian travel, culture and trade between North and South Korea.*
2) *To convene at once an All-Korea Conference represented by delegates from the Governments, political parties and civil organizations of both Koreas, to study and work out the measures for preparing the All-Korea General Elections and establishing the Unified Central Government.*

We are convinced that these demands are fully legitimate, equitable and just since they are based on the standpoints of humanity, fundamental rights and the principle of self-determination. Still we cannot ignore the bearings which the Korean Unification problem has on the international relations. Thus emphasizing the original mission of the United Nations; respecting the authority of the 1954 Geneva Conference in which both the North and South Korean Delegations had participated, and acknowledging adoption of the Agreements reached at the said Conference, we request the nations concerned:

1) *To call as soon as possible an International Conference that shall further the accomplishments of the Political Conference on the Korean Question held at Geneva in 1954, and accelerate the Korean unification by assisting the independent unification movements of the Korean people.*
   Besides those nations which participated in the 1954 Conference, delegations from the four nations constituting the Korean Armistice Observation Commission (Switzerland, Sweden, Poland and Czechoslavakia) and India shall participate in the proposed Conference.
2) *All nations participating in this International Conference shall assume the responsibility to secure the peace in the Korean Peninsula and to guarantee the peaceful development of Unified Korea.*
   In order to secure these guarantees, the United States, the Soviet Union and all other countries shall immediately stop supplying weapons and all other military aids to the present Governments of North and South Korea; shall pledge to assist in the reconstruction of Korea on conditions of non-intervention in her internal affairs and also not to utilize Unified Korea as military bases; and shall recommend immediate membership of Unified Korea to the United Nations.
3) *The same nations shall also support, when requested, the projects of the Unification Projects Agency which will be established by tne All-Korea Confererecce, and also set up an International Supervision Commission to supervise the All-Korea General Elections which will be administered by the above Agency.*
   The International Supervision Commission shall be formed by nations that did not participate in the Korean War, but elected by the participating nations in the proposed International Conference and confirmed by the United Nations.
4) *The foreign armed forces stationed in Korea shall be replaced by International Police Forces ana evacuate Korea as soon as possible.*
   The International Police Forces shall be organized by troops from nations that did not participate in the Korean War; shall have missions to maintain the peace in Korea and also to secure an atmosphere in which free and fair elections can be enforced; and shall withdraw from Korea when requested by the Unified Korea Government.

Unification of Korea is a matter of life and death to the Korean people. No one, no nation should be allowed to bar our way. Therefore, we here appeal to the world to understand and to extend its support to our aims and demands.

ONE KOREA

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Sam-Il Anniversary

On March 1, 1919, Koreans began a long, daring and tireless anti-Japanese liberation struggle which continued into November of that year. The spontaneous struggle spread throughout the country like a prairie fire. Wave after wave of angered civilians calling "Long Live Korea" demonstrated against the Japanese imperialists until the number of Koreans joining the marches reached the tremendous total of 2,023,089 persons. This all-out national independence struggle has been celebrated throughout the years as "Sam-Il Day" (March 1st) and the coming March 1st will be its 43rd anniversary.

The struggle in its scale and tragical feature is written down as incomparable in the annals of all national liberation struggles. Sacrifices were great too 7,109 persons fell before the cruel bayonets of the Japanese gendarmes and another 15,961 Koreans were wounded. 52,770 persons were thrown into prisons and countless were the heroic tales that cannot be listened without tears and indignations: The entire village of Soo-wun were horded into a chapel and burned alive along with the church. 16-year old maiden Kwan Soon died as a matyr of the Korean independence struggle. She did not reveal to the last the names of her compatriots in spite of the cruelest tortures and humiliations committed, and is remembered today as Korean Joan of Arc. So, March 1, 1919 became the most commemorable day in Korean liberation struggle and the spirit of Sam-Il has lived on to encourage Koreans in their long fight for independence and then for unification.

Significance of Sam-Il Struggle

The Sam-Il struggle in Korea, in truth, ignited the great fire of national liberation movements that blazed in all sectors of the earth after the termination of World War I. The May 4, 1919 Anti-Imperialist Student Uprisings in Peking, for instance, was spurred by the heroic struggle that was still going on in Korea. The new doctrine of national self-determination strongly endorsed by President Woodrow Wilson temporarily brightened the hopes of liberation struggles but

the big powers wound up their post-war talks by redividing the colonies among themselves and thus independence-bent Koreans were compelled into launching their great struggle. The most significant characteristic of the Sam-Il struggle is that the movement was carried out by the laboring masses. This can be seen from the fact that bulk of the arrested leaders of the struggle were farmers and laborers and many others were young students.

The long-living spirit of the Sam-Il movement was manifested in full scale when the April Revolution of 1960 spearheaded by students spread throughout the land and finally brought down the brutal Syngman Rhee dictatorship. This struggle too was a spontaneous uprising of the people. A new life was gained for the nation. Freedom filled the air and big hopes brightened the horizons of Korea. But again the works of the people had to be short-lived. The unwanted military takeover came along to clip away the flowers of the April Revolution and the direction of the nation was turned about to serve only the interests of the selfish ruling caste again.

It may be needless to say that the May 16 military coup d'etat has nothing in common with the April Revolution. The militarists may still claim that their "military revolution" was the successor of the April Revolution, but, to anyone's eyes, the two are poles apart in all respects. Time has duly proved the point. All the works of the militarists have been reactionary to the true interests of the nation and they have been strangling the spirit of April Revolution and, therefore, that of Sam-Il as well.

Ungained Goal of Sam-Il Struggle

Although Korea was liberated from the Japanese in 1945, yet the eventual goal of the Sam-Il struggle was not attained. 17 more years went by but the Korean nation still remains divided on account of the egoistic interests of the Big Powers and the selfishness of those national traitors who have profitted from the divided state backed by the foreign forces. The nation must as yet go on suffering under the tragical conditions.

The anti-unification policies of the ROK governments maintained under the disquise of "anti-Communism" may have impressed some thoughtful statesmen abroad that the general public of South Korea were in support of the policies. Such is an illusion. The passive attitudes of the people reflected in the eyes of the world were only the results of the terrifying crackdowns carried out so ruthlessly by the administrations of Syngman Rhee, Chang Myun and Park Chung-Hee.

So, on feting the 43rd Anniversary of Sam-Il Day, it would be good to re-clarify the goal set before all unification-minded Koreans to manifest the spirit of the Sam-Il struggle: Koreans must arise in unison to wipe out those national traitors who have sold their souls to the enemy and also to drive out those foreign forces who intend to keep Korea in an eternal servitude and thus attain the long-sought goal of reunification of the fatherland. In winning in the struggle, Koreans will prove themselves leaders in the unification movements of many divided nations of the world just as they spearheaded the national liberation movements two-score years ago.

Peaceful unification struggle does not remain a problem of Korea alone. It must be a common front of all reunification movements. And since the 38th parallel remains a tension point always threatening the peace of the world, the struggle must be a big link in the struggle for world peace. In this sense, a renewed support should be forwarded to the Korean unification struggle from the peaceful forces of the world. And as the peaceful unification movement of Korea is advancing along with the march of peace, victory shall be ours.

ROK WOODCUTTERS KILLED BY TRIGGER-HAPPY U.S. SOLDIERS

Killing of two Korean woodcutters near the Demilitarized Zone by trigger-happy U.S. soldiers has touched off another bitter controversy over the issue of military security versus human rights. Angered calls for a thorough reinvestigation and conclusion of a status of forces agreement have been raised but meeting stiff U.S. refusal, the ROK military government is far from eager to negotiate for restoration of jurisdictional rights. As the present status of U.S. soldiers tends to encourage atrocities and violences by them, the best formula of getting rid of such irresponsibilities is to have the U.S. armed forces pull out of South Korea.

I Paju Woodcutters Killing Incident

Controversy. On January 6 a group of 40 villagers from Unchon-ri, crossed to the north side of the Imjin River at Paju near the Demilitarized Zone to gather firewood. At some time around 6 P.M. they were suddenly fired on by U.S. patrol and the group fled to the south side of the river. One woodcutter Hwang Kwang-Kil, 25, however, was killed on the spot and another Yu Ki-Yung, 38, died ten days later from gun wound. The incident was kept secret pending U.S. investigation until February 9 when lawyer Park Han-Sang, Chairman of the Korean Human Rights Association who conducted two on-the-spot investigations at the request of the bereaved families announced that the killing was "evident murder." So the heated controversy was touched off.

U.S. Army Announcement. Meeting the lawyers charge, the United States Army authorities issued an announcement on the incident on the same day. It stated that thorough investigation by the U.S. Army confirmed definitely that "the two U.S. soldiers acted in the line of duty." It also said that the incident took place in a restricted area in almost total darkness at about 6 P.M. so "it was not possible to determine by sight whether the tresspassers were Communist infiltrators or friendly South Koreans." The announcement further claimed that "risks cannot be taken in such restricted areas and guards are ordered to command those apprehended to remove their clothing as a safety measure for concealed weapons." It then concluded that "one of the men was shot when he refused to halt after being challenged. The other, who stopped, was shot when he attempted to escape after his clothings had been removed and while the guards were searching for weapons."

"Evident Murder." Counsel Park in charging that there were evident reasons to think that the American soldiers "murdered" the Koreans, cited the following points to back his view:

(1) The specific site was not in the off-limits area.

(2) The U.S. soldiers could determine that the Koreans who were in the group with other villagers at that time were not Communist infiltrators.

(3) Why would the Koreans run southward if they were Communist spies?

(4) The American soldiers allegedly fired upon the two at a short distance after removing their clothing and as they attempted to run away.

(5) It was possible to determine by sight that they were friendly Koreans.

(6) It was cruel for the soldiers to

fire about ten shots into their backs.

(7) Hwang was shot dead by a shotgun, while Yu wounded by a MI Rifle died 10 days later at the U.S. Army 44th Field Hospital.

Angered Presses. In face of the sharply contradicting views and the many successive similar unfortunate incidents that have occurred, angered Korean presses immediately took up the issue of military security versus human rights and called for a thorough joint reinvestigation and conclusion of a status of of forces agreement between S. Korea and the United States. Wrote the Korea Times on Feb. 13: "Against the assertion of the Eigth U.S. Army that the killing was definitely in line of military duty assigned to the guards, we may well claim in line of the internationally accepted respect for human rights, the victims did not deserve death. . . We urge that full justice be given to the incident through impartial investigation of both the United States Army authorities and the Korean government." The Minkook Ilbo charged in fiery tones on Feb. 13: "Provided the victims were Communist spies, still the U.S. soldiers had no right to kill them." And the Kyunghyang Shinmoon summed up the national sentiment on Feb. 25: "As conquences of the killing of the two Korean woodcutters, calls for conclusion of a status of forces agreement have mounted again. We request an early conclusion of such agreement in order to prevent frictions to arise in the friendly relationships between Korea and the United States."

II Reactions of ROK Government and U.S.

Weak-kneed Militarists. Facing such vehement calls for stern actions against the obvious "murder" by U.S. soldiers, the weak-kneed military government failed completely in attaining any justifying settlement of the problem Pressed by the public wrath, the government did take up the issue and on Feb. 14, Foreign Minister Choi Duk-Shin lodged a protest to U.S. Ambassador Samuel D. Berger over the killing of the two woodcutters. Choi later told reporters that he had proposed to the Ambassador to make a thorough investigation of the incident by a combined investigation and to give a considerable compensation to the bereaved families.

U.S. Turns Down Joint Investigation. To Choi's proposal, Berger was said to have agreed personally, but two days later he formally refused to conduct a joint fact-finding probe into the incident and the ROK government acquiesced on a compromise by agreeing to a set-up of a joint committee to study the entry of Korean civilian personnel into the restricated area under control of U.S.

Secretive Attitude of ROK Gov. The timidity and unfaithfulness of the military government in dealing with this issue so sensitive to the national sentiment, have brought the scorn of the nation on itself. On January 3 a Korean soldier was wounded by a shotgun bullet fired by U.S. soldiers but the government did not even express "regrets" less formal protest against the violence. The Paju Incident did not come to the fore until the Korean Human Rights Association took action. As the Paju police authorities had confirmed the incident, the secretive attitude of the military government is also being questioned by the public. Wrote the Donga Ilbo on Feb. 12: "Reporters at the foreign ministry raised doubt that it was strange the government hasn't a word to say on the Paju killing. To this question, an official of the ministry replied: "Such incidents are apt to happen since we don't have a formal (administrative) agreement."

(Continued on Page 7)

Report on Paju Incident

The following is the full report anncunced by the Korean Human Rights Association on its findings on the Paju Woodcutters Killing Incident:

1. **Time of Incident:** About 6 PM of January 6, 1962.
2. **Place of Incident:** North side of the Imjin River, Hapo-ri, Jindong-myon, Changdan-kun.
3. **Offenders:** Noncommissioned officer "Tony" and another soldier of D Company, 8th Regiment, U.S. 1st Cavarly Division.
4. **Victims:** Hwang Kwang-Kil, 25, farmer and Yu Ki-Young, 38, farmer of Unchon-ri village.
5. **Date of Investigation:** February 7 to 9, 1962; Park Han-Sang, Chairman of the Association and two other experts.
6. **Outline of Incident:** At about 5 PM January 6, the victims above crossed into the restricted area on the north side of Imjin River with a group of about 40 villagers of Unchon-ri to cut firewood. As they were discovered and suddenly fired on by the U.S. Army patrol of two men led by noncommissioned officer "Tony", the group fled to the south side of the river. Yu Ki-Young, however, hit by a M1 Rifle bullet, received a penetrating wound on his back and died 10 days later at the 44th U.S. Army Field Hospital. And Hwang Kwang-Kil was caught and derobed for search by the patrol but as he attempted escape was killed on the spot receiving 10 shotgun wounds on his back and hips. The corpse of Yu was turned over to his bereaved family at the Field Hospital and that of Hwang at Imjin Regional Office.
7. **Details of the .Investigation:** On February 6, the Association received appeals from the surviving families of the victims to take proper and positive actions against the killings. The Chairman of the Association proceeded with two investigators on February 7 to the site of the incident. The investigation team met the Chief of Paju Police Station, director of the Kim Surgical Hospital and family members of the victims and gathered testimonies and evidences on the case. On February 9, the team visited the U.S. Army 1st Cavalry Division Headquarters to meet its Commander but as he was engaged in an important conference, saw and queried Capt. McTenney, Chief of Civilian Affairs. The team returned to Unchon-ri and again queried the director of the Kim Surgical Hospital, a lieutenant of Paju Police Station, the bereaved family members and a villager Yu who had crossed the river together with the victims and reappraised the evidences attained. The team also visited the CID of the 1st Cavalry Division to inquire on the findings they attained through their investigation.
8. **Explanation by the U.S. 1st Cavalry Authorities:** Capt. McTenney, Chief of Civilian Affairs of 1st Cavalry explained as follows on the incident: The area where the incident took place is a "restricted area" and neither Koreans nor Americans can enter without permission. It was therefore illegal to trespass into that area. It was regrettable that the victims had tresspassed into the area to acquire a few hwan's worth of fuel at the risk of their lives. Sufficient notices indicating the area as off-limits have been posted by ROK authorities and also through all available media. ROK citizens must obey the restrictions.

In the recent incident, the Korean woodcutters were mistaken as Communist infiltrators and because of their suspiscious movements, were fired on to halt. As spies usually carry hand grenades, those persons apprehended by the patrol are often derobed for search.

The U.N. Forces must take all possible security measures for the defense of the free world and the recent incident was, in a way, caused by such military sensitiveness. We are very sorry for the victims and will do our best to process assistance to the bereaved families.

Still, it must be noted that the U.S. soldiers were in line of duty and, therefore, are not liable for punishment. And there was no fault on the part of the U.S. army, for the area is a restricted area.

9. The Remote Causes and Environment of the Incident:

A. Trespassing into the restricted area: Unchon-ri is a village of about 250 households whose neighboring mountains are completely bald. The scanty resources of the village disable the villagers to buy briquette. So, they, at the risk of their lives, go across the ice-bound Imjin River into the restricted area to cut trees for firewood. The woods lie between the north bank of the river and the highway that runs parallel to the bank, so any person with a sound mind could have easily determined that the woodcutters had no other objective than to gather firewood and also that they had come from the south side of the river.

B. Unfamiliarity between U.S. Armed Forces and the Villagers: One of the remote causes of the incident was the unfamiliarity between the U.S. armed force and the villagers. In other words, the confusing of woodcutters with Communist spies could be considered as a result of lack of understanding on the part of American soldiers of the lives, habits, language, feelings of the village and the lack of knowledge of the English language on the villagers side disabled them to understand the command given by the patrol in such a emergency and by fleeing caused more suspiscion.

11. Direct Causes of the Incident:

A. The mistake of confusing woodcutters with Communist agents: The U.S. army authorities have claimed that the soldiers mistook the woodcutters as Communist infiltrators, but in view of the following reasons, the assertion can hardly be justified:

(1) 40 villagers were cutting wood as a group and had saddles on their backs. In case of spies, they would not move in a group during daylight. Spies might carry saddles as camouflages but they will not work as a group.

(2) When fired on, the entire group fled southward across the Imjin River; Communist agents would flee northward, hide in the woods and then continue their escape northward.

(3) The villagers daringly started their woodcutting at around 6 PM; Communist agents usually attempt crossing the river late in the evening or around midnight, so it was a rash mistake to judge the movements of the woodcutters as Communist infiltration.

(4) Provided the soldiers mistook them for Communist agents, to shoot to kill was an excessive measure. The U.S. army authorities asserted that the soldiers were in line of duty although they killed the woodcutters by mistaking them for Communist infiltrators, but to shoot to kill was an excessive measure for the following reasons:

(a) The soldiers fired without trying to capture the woodcutters in spite of the circumstances wherein no hostility nor tensions existed.

(b) If the circumstances necessitated shooting, the soldiers should have aimed at the legs of the victims, but as both were hit in their backs, the urge to kill must have worked in the minds of the soldiers.

(c) As the soldiers confirmed Kwang possessing no weapons after derobing and searching him, they should have turned him over to the ROK authorities, but Hwang seems to have been deliberately given a chance to escape without his clothes on and so shot in the back.

No Status of Forces Agreement Either. In reply to the mounting calls for a status of forces agreement, Chairman Park Chung-Hee stated on Feb. 17: "The government is studying various issues in preparation for the agreement. But it is hard to predict when it will be materialized." The passive attitude seems to have caused the U.S. to evade any negotiations on the matter. It was reported that the U.S. is against transferring any criminal jurisdiction over its forces in Korea in view of the crazy "plays" being staged under the name of Revolutionary Trials. The U.S. Defense Department, in the meantime, is said to have opposed to a status of forces agreement on ground that S. Korea was still in a semi-wartime state. A report from Washington on Feb. 22 said that "the U.S. authorities will not conclude a status of forces agreement with Korea until its judicial procedures are normalized." So, the United States have turned down both requests of conducting a joint investigation and concluding a status of forces agreement. But the tolerance of the Korean people against the constant violences being committed by irresponsible elements of U.S. forces in Korea, has come to its limits.

III Anger of the Public

6 Incidents in Two Months. During January and February, there were 6 cases of killings, rape and violence committed by American soldiers:

(1) On Jan. 2 a Korean was injured by a shotgun fired by an American soldier while fishing on the Imjin River.

(2) On Jan. 3 a Korean soldier returning to his unit was shot and injured by two U.S. soldiers out hunting at Okkwang-ri village.

(3) On Jan. 6 the Paju woodcutters killing occurred.

(4) On Feb. 9 a Korean young man was fatally wounded at Camp Casey of the 7th Infantry Division while allegedly attempting to escape with stolen property.

(5) On Feb. 15 a Korean was shot and injured by U.S. guards as he was "stealing" kitchen utensils at Camp Casey.

(6) On Feb. 24, a pregnant Korean woman was attacked by a U.S. soldier charging her of theft whereby the woman had a miscarriage.

"We are not animals." These frequent mishaps and violences have enfuriated the Korean public and the nation is protesting that "we are not animals." Nevertheless, the U.S. authorities have done away with all these incidents by assuming a nonchalant air and claiming that "the action was in line of military duty" or "the issue is closed because the U.S. has paid compensations." It was quite unreasonable that the U.S. authorities asserted that the soldiers were right in killing the derobed woodcutter from his back on ground that he tried to flee. Seoul newspapers are all-out in condemning the U.S. reaction and have charged that "if the U.S. is so anxious in safeguarding the rights of its soldiers, it should, at the same time, show respect for the human rights of Koreans too."

"Take back the Money." On Feb. 15 a chaplain and a lieutenant of the U.S. 1st Cavalry called on the homes of the two woodcutters to present balms to the bereaved families. Hwang's widow was not home but the chaplain did find Yu's family. On forwarding a sum of million hwan, the chaplain, reportedly, explained that the money was from church funds and that it was to be given as a help for the survivors to carry on but he did not clarify whether the money was a balm or a compensation. Yu's widow, however, threw the money back at the chaplain and cried: "Why should I take such money which is not clear whether a balm or a compensation. I wondn't take it even if

it's 10 million. Give me back my husband instead. Now take back your money and kill us all if you like."

Editorials

The constant contempt toward Korean lives shown by U.S. soldiers and the humiliating state of still recognizing extra-territorial jurisdiction for the U.S. forces have long embittered the Korean national sentiment. Following are editorials of Seoul newspapers representing the bitterness:

Choseon Ilbo, Feb. 9

"Unquenchable Fury." Before going into the argument of the need of a status of forces agreement or a joint investigation, the very fact that two Koreans were killed itself should be questioned. Ever since the Korean War, countless Koreans have been killed, wounded or lynched by U.S. patrols and each time such incident occurred frictions rose between Korea and U.S. and we could no quench the indigation rising within us.

Am I a duck? Rabbit?
Choseon Ilbo, Feb. 11

To have shot the woodcutters just because they could not understand the command to halt and therefore fled, can never be justified. Had the woodcutters been Americans, the shootings surely wouldn't have happened.

Hankook Ilbo, Feb. 11

"Punish the Killers." The defects of education must be pointed out in this case wherein the American soldier armed with a shotgun killed the fleeing Korean woodcutter without his clothes on. It is our wish that a thorough probe be done on the incident and also that a status of forces agreement be concluded so as to prevent further bloody incidents. We also request that the killers be duly punished and adequate compensation done to the surving families of the victims.

Korea Times, Feb. 13

"Murderous Act." Even admitting that the spot where the killing took place was within the restricted area, the fatal shotgun at unarmed villagers could not be sufficiently justified unless the circumstantial exigency was such that the murderous act was absolutely unavoidable. It also sounds unreasonable to say the victims attempted to run away in front of armed guards after they had been derobed for search.

Of course, the victims are to blame for their recklessness in going into the off-limits area. . .but the whole affair may well have been dealt with some other way short of fatal shootings. No matter how great the emergency and tense the circumstances, extreme moderation and equitable judgement are called for when human lives are at stake.

Minkook Ilbo, Feb. 18

"Respect the Human Rights of Koreans." The ROK and U.S. governments should get down to work out a final arrangement so that another tragedy like the recent Paju incident will never happen again. It is high time that the U.S. should alter its notion that Korea is still maintaining a semi-wartime system since

10 years have passed since the termination of the Korean War. And we also think it proper that the Americans should respect the human rights of Koreans besides being so mindful of their own human rights.

V Demands for Status of Forces Agreement

Only Korea Left. The United States has concluded status of forces agreements with 49 countries wherein its armed forces are stationed. Formosa and Korea still do not have such agreements but as U.S. armed forces in Formosa are mostly military consultant and are treated in line with diplomats, Korea is the only country left that recognizes exclusive jurisdiction of the U.S. in her territory. The ROK-U.S. Agreement on Criminal Juridiction over U.S. Armed Forces in Korea signed at Taijon on July 12, 1950 authorized the United States service courts and authorities to excercise exclusive jurisdiction over the members of U.S. armed forces in Korea and since the United States has refused to revise the agreement in spite of persistent requests from the ROK government, the agreement is still in force. So, the ROK authorities possess no jurisdiction over the offenses by U.S. soldiers no matter where and what kind of offense is committed.

113 Killed in 7 Years. It can hardly be refuted that this status of having exclusive jurisdiction has been the major factor giving rise to constant atrocities and misconducts by U.S. soldiers in Korea. According to figures given by ROK authorities, there were 325 cases of serious offenses committed by U.S. soldiers against Korean personnel and properties during the 7 years from 1954 to 1960 and, as results, 113 Koreans were killed, some 300 wounded and 37 women raped. Some of these crimes were wild and violent beyond comprehension. Pedestrians were shot from vehicles, passengers thrown off trains, shoeshine boys beaten, shops plundered and houses put on fire.

Slight Punishments. Koreans have due reasons to be embittered, for such atrocities have never been punished severely and often the offenders were acquitted. For instance, on Feb. 25, 1960, a group of U.S. soldiers including a major was arrested for killing a Korean boy, packing his corpse in a box and trying to dispose of the body by using an army helicopter. The major was only punished by a cut in his pay! On Sept. 15, 1957, a Korean girl was shot and killed and another wounded by a trigger-happy U.S. air force ground crewman at Koonsan air base but all the soldier got was 6 months of hard labor. On July, 6, 1957, a 13-year old boy was shot and killed by an American soldier near the U.S. pipeline at Inchon but the U.S. military tribunal ruled the case as a killing by mistake and acquitted the soldier.

In this way, so many innocent Koreans have fallen victins to the atrocities by U.S. soldiers and each and every time such shocking incident would occur, voices clamoring for an administrative agreement on an equal footing were raised by the public.

Cases of Japan and Others. When Japan was held in a similar state recognizing exclusive jurisdiction of the U.S. over its armed forces members in Japan, offenses and misconducts by U.S. soldiers were equally frequent and therefore brought up constant bitter controversies until national pressure moved the United States into concluding an equivalent status of forces agreement.

Under the present status of forces agreements, Japan and the NATO countries have jurisdiction over the members of the U.S. armed forces with respect to offenses committed within their territories and punishable by their laws. In other words, such offenses by U.S. sold-

iers as those committed outside U.S. bases or off-duty are punishable by the court and law of that country.

Negotiations by ROK Government. The Chang Government, as a matter of fact, did hold negotiations twice with the United States on the issue. But as the U.S. agreed to the negotiations only because fierce demonstrations were staged in front of the Seoul American Embassy, they cut off the talks as soon as the pressure receded. The Korean public considers it urgent and highly necessary that a status of forces of agreement be concluded, but the military government is far from eager to do so. The vehement tone of the Seoul presses calling for a final settlement of the issue, therefore, can be said sharp criticisms against the passive attitude of the militarists.

VI Comments

Racial Prejudice. The killing of Korean woodcutters with a shotgun was an incident not only highly impeachable but thoroughly humiliating to Koreans. It is the racial prejudice behind the minds of the American soldiers that tends to show such disregard and contempt toward Korean lives. No act can be more brutal than to shoot a defenseless citizen completely derobed and from the back with a shotgun. This is equal to treating Koreans like rabbits or some other animals. The U.S. authorities defended the soldiers by claiming that they were in line of duty but humanism is completely absent there in putting in a defense for such an inhumane act.

Tarnishing the Prestige of UN. Such irresponsible offenses by U.S. soldiers are not limited to Korea. They are repeatedly occurring in Japan, Germany and elsewhere. But in those countries, the problem concerns only two nations. In the case of Korea, the U.S. armed forces are stationed there in the name of United Nations forces. Whenever in need, the United States will emphasize the "authority and competence of the United Nations", but it should be noted that each time such misconduct occurs, the prestige of the United Nations is tarnished. If the U.S. armed forces are commissioned to Korea to safeguard the world peace in behalf of the United Nations as the U.S. says, its soldiers should show the greatest respect for human rights instead of firing on Koreans so trigger-happily as if they were out on a hunting expedition. It is requisite that the United Nations, in the meantime, should do something about the abominable state.

Regrettable Attitude of ROK Government. The attitude taken by the military government in relation to the incident is deeply regrettable too. Since innocent Korean citizens were murdered so ruthlessly, positive actions were asked but evidences show that the government on the contrary, tried hard to conceal the incident. The local police authorities had confirmed the incident immediately after it occurred but it took more than a month until the nation came to know about it and that was not through the government but through the Korean Human Rights Association. Pressed by the public, Foreign Minister Choi lodged a "protest" but could not press further for any equitable settlement of the controversy.

Best that U.S. Forces Evacuate Korea. The angered public is calling vehemently for conclusion of a status of forces of agreement. Such agreement may be a temporary settlement of the problem but it will not be a thorough solution, for offenses by U.S. soldiers have not ceased in countries like Japan and Germany though they now have such agreement. The only drastic solution to the problem, therefore, is to have the U.S. armed forces pull out of Korea.

CHANG MYUN AND PARK CHUNG-HEE GOVERNMENTS COMPARED

Free democratic progress was gained during the Chang Myun administration but the clock of progress was turned backwards by the military dictatorship. The two governments have proven themselves incompetent of ruling the nation, but the recklessness of Park Chung-Hee will ruin the nation.

I Democracy and Dictatorship

Difference between Day and Night. The military government has ruled South Korea for more than 9 months since take-over last May 16. The previous Chang Myun Government had reigned during a span of 9 months, so it seems good time to make a comparison between these two governments. In short, life under these two governments differed as much as day from night. Under the Chang Government, democratic reforms were the call of the times and the people were free to do and say what they wanted and no one was ever questioned or arrested for demonstrating for unification. Under the militarists, the people are put on gags and fetters and therefore completely bereft of all liberties and even the least mentioning of peaceful unification will mean ending up in jail. The free and open environment of daylight during the Chang administration has been turned into dark and dreary chill of night by the militarists.

Progress of Freedom under Chang. Freedom made great gains during the Democratic administration. Under the Old Constitution of Syngman Rhee era, the freedoms of residence, transfer and communications were inviolable unless by law or, in other words, if desired by Rhee, these freedoms were violated by enacting new laws. (Article 10 and 11, Old Constitution). Freedoms of speech, publication, assembly and association were recognized only within the limits of law (Art. 13, Old Constitution). The New Constitution, revised after the April Uprisings of 1960, did not ensure complete freedom of thought but it at least cleared away all the restrictions placed on the civil liberties above. The freedoms of association, collective bargaining and collective action by laborers were, however, still confined within the limits of law and subjected to restrictions when necessary to maintain public order and social welfare. Still any restriction destructive to the essential contents of these freedoms and rights was prohibited and no regulations were allowed to enforce censorship on speech and publication or prohibition of assembly and association. (Article 18 and 28, New Constitution). Though the New Constitution was still far from an ideal democratic constitution, it marked great progress from the Old Constitution. These progresses in democtratic rights, it must be remembered, were gained by the people themselves and for that account, were duly respected by both the government and the people.

Reign of Terror. In vast contrast to the democratic precedures and ways respected during the Chang administration, militarists that forced themselves into the ruling chairs of the country have

worked, from the beginning to this day only in the direction to devastate democracy so as to build up their military dictatorship. After dissolution of all national and local assemblies; arresting of the ministers of Chang Myun Cabinet; disbanding of all political and social organizations and suspension of civil liberties, the militarists went on to seize control of all local governments, besides the central government, by infiltrating military men into those sectors. Then they sought to legalize their dictatorship by employing some smattering they have done on law. By writing up this Law Concerning Extraordinary Measures for National Reconstruction, all the state functions,—legislative, administrative and judicial—were placed under the control of one organ, the Supreme Council for National Reconstruction.

Following the purges of their own offsprings, the Supreme Council became more and more an organ to serve the arbitrariness of its chairman, Park Chung-Hee and he now literally wields an absolute power over the nation backed up by the services of the secret service, belonging to the Central Intelligence Agency. Chief of this Agency, Kim Chong-Pil, as a matter of fact, is not only a watch dog but considered the No. 2 man now. He sits in on all policy making conferences of the government, goes abroad on diplomatic missions and oversees the nomination of government officials. So the reputation is that these two strongmen, Park and Kim, instated atop the incomparable dictatorial machine, are terrorizing the nation.

II Incompetence and Corruption

No Corruption in Chang Government. The Chang Myun Government, it may be remembered, celebrated its inauguration dedicated to eliminate corruption and to reconstruct the national economy. Although it failed in both attempts, the earnestness of the Chang administration in tackling these problems were acknowledged. (The Chang Government set the punishable line at 100 million hwan for illicit profiteers as compared to the 200 million line set by the military government.) Meeting powerful pressure from the big businesses, the Chang Government could not go through in executing its commitment to oust corruption. The present military government, however, is in no cleaner position to claim effectiveness or less guilt. The Chang Government was, of course, far more morally indebted to carry out its commitment to eliminate corruption, for this was one of the big tasks entrusted to it by the electorate. Scandals such as the Tungsten Case did come up but no scandalous case was ever pinned on the Chang government although the opposition was all eyes and ears to expose any scandal if the government was involved.

Collusion of the Militarists with the Illicit Profiteers. The militarists also emerged on the political scene with calls to root out corruption and administrative incompetence. But actually there were no need for "surgical operations", for the Chang Government had not soiled its hands with corruption. And furthermore, the nation reserved the right to do the clean-up with its own hands had it forsaken the Chang administration as totally incompetent in doing so. Surely, there were no reasons to resort to violence. Should any government attempt concealment of its incompetence and corruption going on under its wings by using unlawful means, the use of physical force to correct the abuse might be justified, but as far as the Chang Myun Government was concerned, there were no evidence to prove such tendencies. The militarists, however, had other objectives than rooting out corrution in taking over the government. So as soon as they came into power, the militarists threw away such promises.

A bit of reviewing may be necessary

here. On June 18, the junta set up, within the Supreme Council, the Illicit Fortune Disposal Committee and arrested 24 leading fortune-makers including Park Hueng-Shik, president of Whashin Industries, Im Whueng-Son, former mayor of seoul and others but within a week nearly all of the suspected were freed. Then the junta took action to relax the restrictions placed on business activities and by early July, it lifted the freeze on all bank deposits and guaranteed secrecy to all unenscribed deposits.

The illicit profiteers were also entitled to these benefits and these men had cleverly funnelled all their illicit earnings into bank deposits. This last measure definitely marked a turning point in the militarists policy towards the profiteers. A "deal" was concluded between the two parties wherein the punishments on the profiteers were to be extenuated in exchange for their collaboration with the military government. From here on the collusion of the militarists with the illict profiteers began. The junta revised the tax collecting system in the direction to emphasize indirect taxes and relaxed the progressive rate imposed on corporate incomes. Then it gave out subsidies and grants to the big businesses most of which are controlled by the profiteers. This was not the end.

Despite they were on trial, fortune-makers Lee Chung-Lim, Park Hueng-Shik and the like were sent abroad, since November, to the United States, Japan and Europe with missions to induce foreign investments in Korea for the projected Five-Year Economic Development Plan. A new ROK Businessmen Association was inaugurated on October 25 and 12 of the 20 promoters of the Association were businessmen labelled by the military government as illicit profiteers! Furthermore, the inauguration ceremony was honored by the attendances of Premier Song, Finance Minister Chon, Commerce and Industry Minister Chong and Chief of the Central Intelligence Agency Kim. No such spectacles as suspected profiteers being sent abroad as government representatives or a meeting sponsored by illicit profiteers being attended by the Prime Minister ever occurred during the Chang administration. The gilted policy of the militarists against corruption were fully revealed in front of the nation and we see now the militarists and the profiteers tied up in an ugly manner to prey on whatever the impoverished nation can put out. The junta leaders, who had already soiled their hands in the past, were not cut out to be crusaders against corruption in the first place and we see corruption prevailing in all sectors of the national life again.

III Economic Policies

Ill-fated Reconstruction Attempt by Chang. The Chang Government placed priority on economic reconstruction under the banner of "economy first." It set forth various targets as ambitious as any posted by the present junta. In his address to the National Assembly on Sept. 30, 1960, Chang Myun announced his reconstruction plan envisaging a rapid economic growth through 100 billion hwan fund release to farmers during a 4-year period and electricity development up to 1 million KW per hour in 7 years. The economic system was to return to free enterprise and emphasis was also to be placed on social welfare such as unemployment relief. The far-reaching plan did get launched but as Chang could not provide the remedies to overcome the chronic maladies of ROK economy—over-reliance on foreign aid and over-emphasis on defense—his reconstruction plan was fated to end up in failure. 51.8% of revenues estimated in the fiscal 1961 Budget compiled by the Chang Government relied on foreign assistance as compared

to the 31.3% of the 1960 Budget compiled by Syngman Rhee. The big rise was due to the change in hwan: dollar exchange rate. Still the immense reliance on foreign aid in turn required the Chang Government to meet the defense liabilities. Chang hoped to gain funds for his economic development plan by doing a drastic cut on the military personnel but meeting U.S. opposition had to spend 16.6 billion hwan more on defense than the previous year. The fatal weakness of the Chang Government was its anti-unification posture. As the possibilities of economic reconstruction grew thinner under the circumstances, calls for unification mounted, whereby the Chang Government became isolated from the nation. It is true that the Chang Myun Government proved itself incompetent in reconstructing the national economy. Still economic conditions did not aggravate to such critical state as today in spite of the chaos that prevailed Testifying recently in the Revolutionary Court, Chang Myun appraised his own administration in the following words: "I did not think the military takeover would take place before May 16. I believed so because neither did I maintain a tyrannical government nor intended to exercise a fist policy. I did my best for the cause of the nation." In spite of the incompetence shown, the soberness of the Chang Government was never questioned and the public was always free to demand the ways and means for economic betterment.

Down to the Brinks of Ruin under the Militarists. Now see what has been done under the military rule. The economy has aggravated to ruinous conditions. Plants have cut production by as much as 60%. Statistics show that the deficit of an average wage-earner runs up to 5,887 hwan per month. Commodity prices are rocketing. Here are some price hikes since May 30 last year: Sugar, 19%; silk yarns, 17%; cotton cloth, 13%, lumber, 58%. The semi-wartime fiscal policy of the military government naturally demands the public to sacrifice its livelihood. Pressed by the defense needs, the deficit financing has rocketed money supply up to 312.2 billion hwan mark as of last Dec. 31. While printing so much new money, the military government has been unrelenting in its tax collecting, whereby the Finance Ministry collected 115% of the total tax revenue as of January 31. The compulsory savings law and the price hikes of products and services of government monopolies are further burdens on the hard-pressed nation.

And to crown it all, the nation is going to be whipped up into this "fantastic" Five-Year Economic Development Plan. The plan envisages growth in war potential but no improvement is calculated for living standards! Although the plan hardly stands a chance of succeeding since it relies so much on foreign assistance, still it was so heartless of the planners in not promising better lives to the people after all the painstaking sacrifices to be demanded from them. A compulsory labor mobilization law has been enacted to recruit the necessary labor force and more will be asked from the people. But all thoughtful Koreans are questioning the worth of such labor which has no alternative but to fail. The militarists have called the Chang Myun Government corrupted, incompetent and all such names but the militarists, in turn, are being criticized as reckless tyrants taking the nation to certain ruin.

Request

The One Korea wishes to exchange publications and would also welcome contributions of writings on the Korean Question.

—Editor

IV Comparison by Figures

Defense Expenditures

Chang: 168 billion
Park: 193 billion

More for Defense. The major chronic ailments of ROK fiscal policy are. (1) deficit financing (2) tremendous defense spendings which have nullified all serious attempts at economic reconstruction (3) reliance on foreign assistance and (4) over-burdening liabilities imposed on the public. The last Chang Budget was the fiscal 1961 revised Budget. This totalled 609.8 billion hwan, of which General Accounts counted for 527.9 billion. Direct defense expenditure was estimated at 168 billion or about 31% of the budget. But if other security spendings, that is the Justice and Police expenditures were added, national security expenditures totalled 260 billion.

Park Chung-Hee admitted in his press conference on October 18 that the two jobs of reconstructing the economy and maintaining the present defense level were incompatible. He did not say he would attempt overcoming the difficulty and, of course, went on to spend relentlessly on defense. On Compiling the 1962 Budget, defense was given priority with a big portion of the over-all increase. A sum of 689.1 billion hwan has been estimated for fiscal 1962 Budget which is an increase of 74.9 billion over 1961. Of this 74.9 billion increase, 37% will go to defense needs and 34% to pay hikes for government officials. Thus 193 billion will be spent for defense, 45 billion more than Chang budget. So, Park, in spite of his insight, has shown that he can't do anything about the incompatibility.

U.S. Assistance

Chang: $240 million
Park: $190 million

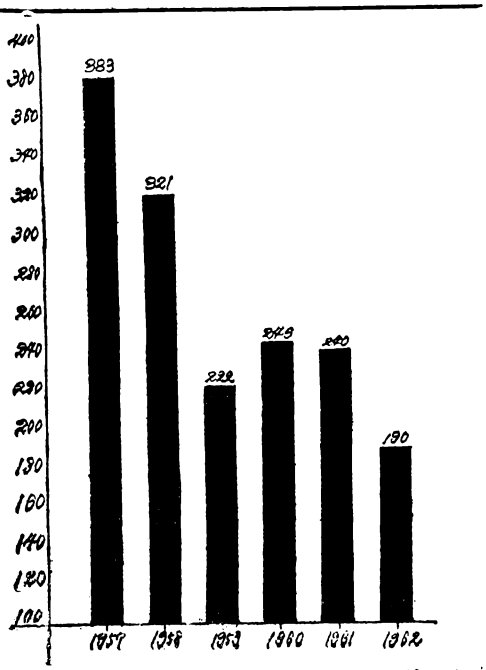
Sharp Decrease. Government investments for the projected economic development plan etc. provided by the 1962 Budget are estimated at 217.8 billion hwan or 31.9 billion more than Chang Budget. As the plan relies so much on foreign assistance, prospects of the investments are quite questionable. The sharp decrease in U.S. assistance may prove fatal to the plan. Total receipts in the Counterpart Funds Special Accounts (sales accounts of aid materials) are estimated at 217 billion hwan in the 1962 Budget or 10.2 billion over the previous year (206.8 billion). Wishful thinking has been done here and a lot of chickens seem to have been counted before hatching. This figure, first of all, was drawn on the assumption that foreign aid will be offered at the 1961 level. But so far the United States has promised 20% less than the amount of last year.

The military government has put forth desparate efforts to win additional assistance from the United States Starting with Ambassador Chung Il-Kwun's approach to the U.S. Government as early as last August, Park himself went to

Table A

U.S. Assistance by Years

Unit: million dollars



Note: Figures for 1961 & 1962 are estimates

Washington and implored for U.S. backing of the projected Five-Year Plan but was turned down. Economic missions were sent to other industrial countries to induce investment but met with little success. Despite all the rebuffs met, the militatists still did not give up their wishful thinking and proceeded to finalize their Five-Year Plan on the same optimism

To the vast dismay of the militarists, Fowler Hamilton Chief of the AID came to Seoul on January 9 and told them that they were asking too much. Consequently, U.S. aid to Korea for 1962 was agreed at $120 million. This is a sharp drop of $40 million as compared to the $160 million received during the period of July 1960 to June 1961. Furthermore, U.S. surplus farm goods aid is to decrease by $5 million to ₩70 million.

The Counterpart Funds are constituted by the sales receipts of aid materials and once aid materials are sold, the receipts are instantly tabulated in the Counterpart Funds Special Accounts of the national revenue. So, as long as the materials cannot get customers, the aid will not function as a help to ROK finance. During 1961 sales of aid materials were all but encouraging. As of the end of November, actual sales reached only 73% of the estimated total for 1961. In the meantime, acutal receipts of revenues in the General Accounts registered 79.4% and those in the Special Accounts was at 75.8%. Receipts in Counterpart Funds never have fallen below receipts in the General Accounts. At the end of 1960, for example, receipts in the Counterpart Funds registered 135.2% as compared to the 102.7% in the General Accounts and 105.6 % in the Special Accounts.

In order to promote the sales of aid materials, the military government had cut down on the hwan deposit rate and customs duties levied on the aid materials from July 15. Still, it could not accelerate disposal of the aid materials and some $10 million has been carried over into 1962. The sharp drop in over-all purchasing power is the main factor that has slackened the sales of aid materials and sales difficulties of aid materials have sent the government finance into a crucial state. Since there are no signs showing an upward turn in purchasing power or production, the big figure estimated for Counterpart Funds receipts are too optimistic If things go at the present rate, about 63 billion hwan or 29% should be discounted from the 217 billion estimated for Counterpart Funds receipts. The big hole in the national revenue, in the meantime, will necessitate printing of new bank notes and also intensify tax collecting. So, the nation must likely undergo another trying year plagued by inflation and heavy taxes.

Tax Burdening

Chang: minus 35.1 billion
Park: plus 92.4 billion

Heavier Taxes. The militarists at least should have shown some efforts towards reducing the heavy taxes since they were so dedicated to "relieve the peoples' miseries." They, on the contrary have been busy making retrogressive revisions on the tax collecting system so much so that the tax burdening by the public has become heavier than at any time in history. The intensive tax collecting begun last July gathered 64% of the total estimated tax revenues at the end of September far surpassing the 43% in Counterpart Funds receipts and 45% in the General Accounts. And at the end of December, closure of the fiscal year 1961, actual receipts in tax revenues reached 166.7 billion hwan or 114% of the estimate. Surplus receipts in tax revenues never happened before.

The retrogressive revision of the tax system which shifted emphasis from direct taxes to indirect taxes meant more pressure on the consuming public through higher commodity prices. The new Budget estimates total tax revenues at 221.2

billion, an increase of 32.2 billion over the revised 1961 Budget and 39.4 billion over the original '61 Budget. An income increase of 9 billion is estimated for government monopolies. Furthermore, the Miscellaneous revenues that are received through administrative charges and state enterprises are to gain an increase of 42 billion hwan, reaching a total of 85.1 billion. This is equal to 19% of the entire internal revenue. (Last year Miscellaneous revenue represented only 5.6% of the total revenue estimate.) So far, new burden to be shouldered by the consuming public will be 81.3 billion hwan. Then there is another 11.1 billion that will be provided for rate hikes of the national railways that comes under the Special Accounts. So, all things considered, the consuming public is requested to shoulder an additional burden of 92.4 billion hwan in 1962.

The 1961 Budget of Chang Myun estimated a decrease of 46.3 billion hwan in tax revenues as compared to the 1960 Syngman Rhee Budget. Even discounting the 12.9 billion estimated for Miscellaneous revenues, the burden of the consuming public was to be cut by 35.1 billion hwan. Chang's commitment to ease the public burdening, however, was offset because his financing ended in a deficit of 32.2 billion hwan. In the case of the military government, the burden will be twofold because heavier taxes will be accompanied by a worse deficit financing. And as the dificit can hardly be contained within the present limits, additional borrowing by the government will ensue and therefore tax collecting will be intensified to extremes.

Deficit Financing

Chang: 31.5 billion
Park: 63.5 billion

More in the Red. Inflation is another factor atop the heavy taxes, unemployment, hunger etc. that has plagued the national life throughout the years. The main cause of inflation was printing of new bank notes to cover up for the governments' deficit financing. The 1961 Chang Budget estimated a deficit of 30.7 billion hwan in the General Accounts and an additional 4.5 billion in the Special Accounts. But due to additional spendings, the deficit increased to 54.1 billion. This deficit financing was succeeded by the military government and through four suplementary budgets, another 20 billion was added to the deficit.

The deficit in the new Budget totals 37 5 billion hwan (8 billion in National Bonds, 18.7 billion in Industrial Reconstruction Bonds and 10.8 billion in Loans). As the Chang Government could not hold down further deficit spending, so will the military government find it impossible to have the deficit pinned down at the estimated level. The Budget Bill announced last December 7 seems more frank on the point. It estimated the deficit in the General Accounts at 66.8 billion hwan. The cut on the deficit was obviously done for political purposes. The deficit in the Special Accounts is estimated at 26 billion hwan. So when the deficits in both General and Special Accounts are put together, the total reaches 63.5 billion which is a bulging increase of 32.2 billion over Chang Myun's original Budget and 4.8 billion over the 1961 revised Budget. In this manner, the deficit financing of the military government will be expanded far more than the Chang Government during the process of execution and in this sense, the fiscal policy of the present government is far unbalanced and insecure.

Currency Inflation

Chang: 16.1 billion
Park: 102.1 billion

Rocketing Money Supply. The Bank of Korea announced on Feb. 23 that money supply reached another new high of 321.8 billion hwan at the end of January. This was an increase of 9 billion in a month's time. Money supply has soared 102.1 billion hwan or 46% during the 9½ months of military rule. In other words, currency has been inflating at a

rate of 11.3 billion hwan each month. As stated before, currency inflation is being caused by the immense spending on defense, drop in purchasing power, devaluation of the hwan and sales difficulties of the aid materials.

The militarists who in truth, are at a loss to counter the unprecedented currency inflation, are assuming the same optimistic attitude. When asked last October 18 how the government was going to counter the currency inflation, Chairman Park replied: "The revolutionary government believes that no serious concern is needed as long as the money supply maintains its present level." The supply had reached 276.9 billion hwan at that time. Two months later, Premier Song Yo-Chan expressed conviction that the rise in money supply could be stopped below the 300 billion mark and that no inflation was in sight. According to their words, everything would have been all right but eight days after Song's statement, the bulging money supply soared beyond the 300 billion line and reached 312.2 billion hwan at the end of the year.

The 321.8 billion hwan of money circulating at the end of January is an astonishing 113.3 billion hwan increase over that of a year ago. The Chang Government was blamed for its incompetence but the military government is reckless. During the Chang administration, money supply increased only slightly, that is, 16.1 billion in 9 months period. So, under the militarists, currency has increased by more than six times. The intensive currency inflation should have spurred a galloping inflation in prices had not purchasing power dropped so low.

Price Inflation

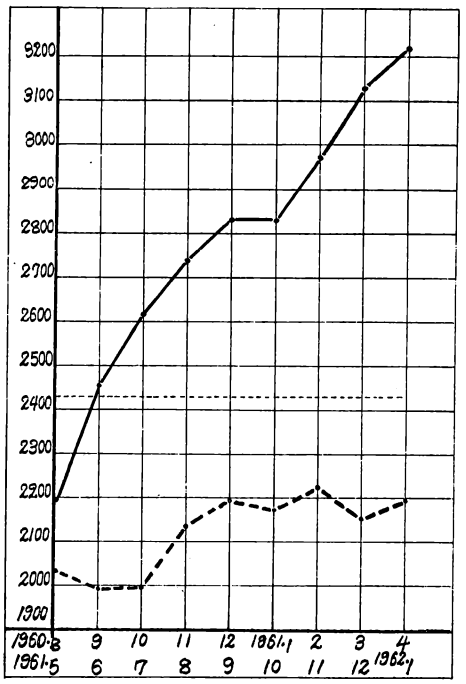
Chang: 13.2%
Park: 18.4%

Rising Prices. Over-all commodity price index rose by 13.2% during the Chang administration, whereas the military government claims that the index has fallen by 14.6% since July last year. This figure is highly contradictory to the state where-

Table B

Money Supply

(Unit: 100 million hwan)



Notes:
Line on top: Under Military Government
Line below: Under Chang Government
Center line: Currency Stabilization Line set by ROK-U.S. Joint Eco. Commission

in money supply is increasing so sharply but it has been the ground for the optimistic outlook expressed by the militarists. Over-all price index usually doesn't tell much. If the situation is probed carefully, the contradiction can easily be solved.

The record rice crop gathered in 1961 registered some 18.5 million suks or 3 million suks over the average crop. On top of this bumper crop, $7 million worth of U.S. surplus farm goods are being imported. So, inevitably, rice price dropped 10.5% during August to September and another 48.4% by December. Following the drop in rice price, over-all commodity price index fell from the peak of 186.6% (1955: 100) in July to 173.3% in November. As farm produce occupies 50% of total ROK production, over-all price index is

(Continued on Page 21)

Death Confirmed for Chairman of Bereaved Families Ass.

The Appellate Panel of the Revolutionary Court on Feb. 9 upheld the death sentence passed on Lee Won Shik, Chairman of the defunct Kyungsang Bereaved Families Association by the lower court. The appellate court also confirmed prison terms of 15 years given to Lee Sam-Keun and No Hyun-Sub officials of the Association. Two co-defendants acquitted by the lower court were, in the meantime, given 10 years in prison.

The defunct Bereaved Family Associations were organizations formed to reinstate the civil rights of citizens executed by the Syngman Rhee government and also to promote assistances for the bereaved families. The Revolutionary Prosecution in indicting the defendants of the associations charged that they had engaged in "antistate activities" by staging anti-governments struggles against the Chang Myun government. "The struggles carried out by the organizations to gain government assistances for the bereaved families of the leftist elements who died during the Korean war and to perform funeral services, reburial and erection of monuments for the deceased constituted offenses against the state," were the wordings of the indictment.

It was only from piety to the dead that the members of the bereaved families wish to hold funeral services, rebury and erect tombs and monuments for their dead. The ruling by the Revolutionary court to condemn these activities as "anti-state" is not only mad but profaning the innermost and pious feelings of mankind. As a matter of fact, ex-Premier Chang Myun had contributed 1 million hwan to the Associations and many other high officials of the state had followed suit. For this account, the military junta accused the Chang Myun government of "aiding the Communists." At any rate, humanity has never suffered such outrage as having its members sentenced to death and prison for mourning and sepulchering their dead.

14 Socialists Given Prison Terms

The Revolutionary Court passed its sentences on 14 leaders of the defunct United Socialist Party on counts of "anti-state." activities. Yun Kil-Choong was given 15 years in prison and Koh Chung-Hoon and Lee Dong-Yup received 10 years. Aged Su Sang-Il, 75 year-old leader of the Party and mainstay of the progressive forces of South Korea, and Kim Sung-Sook, 65, and Chung Wha-An, 65, were put on probation, while 8 others were given 3 years in prison. As always, the defendants were charged of "supporting the political lines similar to that of North Korean Communist regime."

The United Socialist Party was the successor of the Socialist Popular Party which was inaugurated on May 12, 1960 through a grand merger of progressive parties of South Korea. It worked to form a united national front of farmers, laborers, intellectuals, medium and small enterprenuers and students. Its platform put stress on national reconstruction and as reconstruction was impossible under the divided state of the nation, the Party struggled for peaceful unification of the fatherland by endorsing north and south cultural and economic exchange as the first step to eventual unification.

This trial wound up the trials conducted by the militarists on the progressive political parties. Choi Paik-keun, organization chief of the Socialist Party, it may be remembered, was executed on last December 21 along with Cho Yong Su, publisher of the Minjok Ilbo. Scores of progressive politicians have, in this way, been put away by the most unfair trials in history.

Revolutionary Trials Completed

The Revolutionary Court, on February 15, virtually completed all its trials of 250 cases involving 697 persons charged with violence, illegal profiteering. graft, hooliganism and smuggling. Chief of the ad hoc court, Choi Yang-Kyu, announced that judicial officers from both the military and civilian court will be relieved of their duty within February, leaving two appellate panels that will also be dissolved upon completion of their function in April. So curtains will at last fall on the great gloomy play that has been going on for 8 long months.

Maj. Choi said that since activation on July 12, the court sentenced 18 persons to death, another 18 to life terms, 279 to prison terms and acquitted or dropped 131 cases. In the meantime, the appellate tribunal so far has handed down death for 13 defendants, of which 7 executed, life terms for 8, and prison terms for 116 others, while 4 were put on probation and 13 others acquitted. At present 114 defendants involved in 44 cases have appealed including Lt. Gen. Chang Do-Young former Chairman of the Supreme Council sentenced to death by the lower count.

So this most notorious and incomparable Revolutionary Court claiming retroactive jurisdiction over cases going back to Dec. 23, 1957 and terrorizing the nation as well as shocking the world has come to close at last. The 250 cases tried are highlighted, first of all, by the trial on the progressive Seoul daily Minjok Ilbo whose unfairness and cruelty brought on furious wrath and censure of the world on the militarists. The wield construction of law, distortion of facts and forceful application of the "Retroactive Special Law" employed by the Court ruthlessly trampled on all the valuable principles of modern law and court procedures. The haphazardness of the Court which acted only as stooges of the junta leaders was particularly represented in the fact that all defendants tried for endorsing peaceful unification, were convicted on exactly the same count of "collaborating with the North Korean Communist Regime." It is quite ridiculous to question the theoretical validity of such bogus trials. The irreparable distrust and scorn from world opinion won by the militarists are the due results of such gloomy, unfair and mad "plays" conducted under the title of "Revolutionary Trials."

Cases Handled

Trials	Cases	Persons
Cases Handled	250	697
Sentences Passed	161	464
Transferred	55	149
Dropped	30	69
Others	4	15
Charges		
Anti-state	56	215
Unfair Elections	98	222
Election Violence	27	107
Illicit Profiteering	21	21
Graft	20	37
Counter-revolution	12	46
Hooliganism	9	16
Smuggling	7	31
Sentences		
Death		18
Life Term		18
Other Prison Terms		279
Acquitted		64
Probation and Others		67
Fines and Confiscated Properties		
Fines	1,885,000,000 hwan	
Additional Fines	113,940,000 "	
Confiscated	84,000,000 "	

President Yun Repels Park's Remarks on Government Transfer

President Yun Po-Sun called upon the military rulers on Feb. 3 to accord former politicians an opportunity to run in the forthcoming parliamentary elections which the junta has promised to hold in May 1963. This was a challenge to Chairman Park's statement on Jan. 22 22 wherein Park expressed intentions to restrict participation of former politicians to reaapear on the political arena.

The President urged a "reconsideration" by the military leaders and said "I don't think it reasonable to obstracize part of the politicians from taking part in the revolutionary ranks because the military revolution bears pan-national characteristics." As Chairman Park had employed such words as exerting "pressures" or "another coup d'etat" to bring about a conscientious civilian rule, the Presidents comment obviously meant to question the creditability of the junta's promise to restore civilian rule by the summer of 1963.

The President furthermore stated that he likes to see to it that the military government will enact reasonable election laws enabling the people to elect good persons without the infringement by military or officials. The criticism was scathing because Park had revealed that the revolutionary authorities will compel the civilian government-to-be to continue revolutionary tasks left by the military government after the transfer.

Comparison

(Continued from Page 18)

very sensitive to the rise and fall in prices of agricultural products. The index should have fallen lower if prices of manufactured goods had not risen in the meantime. As a matter of fact, such goods as fuel and some service charges have risen by 6.5 and 2.3% respectively. In short, the figures given by the military government are not to be taken at its value, for the government has put price ceilings on various commodities and such controlled prices have been computed in the statistics. So in contrast to the government's tabulation, statistics compiled by Seoul newspapers show rise in the over-all commodity price index. The Donga Ilbo estimated the rise in over-all prices at 18.4%. Drop in prices can be seen in only 5 items among 25 commodities. Such goods as charcoal and lumber have risen by as much as 254% and 158% respectively during the 9 months of military rule, while the biggest drop in price of a single commidity was 13%. As regards food stuffs, only rice and Indian bean have dropped.

Grand National Product

1960: 2322.7 billion

1961: 2320.4 billion

Crucial Retrogression. The military government announced last Dec. 9 that the grand national product for 1961 was estimated at 2320.4 billion hwan. This was 2.3 billion or 0.1% drop from that of 1960. The growth rate during 1960 was 2.4% but as population growth rate was 2.88%, curtailment had already been in force. If population growth is considered, the retrogression in the growth rate of 1961 would be 2.89%. This figure highly symbolizes the mismanagement being done by the militarists.

The critical condition of ROK economy is, in truth, much more serious than indicated by the retrogression shown by the growth rate, for the bumper crop had done a lot of covering up for the retraction in other industries. In relation to other sensitive indices, as unemployment and livelihood, the militarists have maintained an extreme secretism but the few statistics given suffice in showing the ruinous state of ROK economy.

NEWS OF THE MONTH

Jan. 24 to Feb. 24.

16,244 Youths to be Mobilized into Slave Labor

On Feb. 10, the National Construction Service Corps was inaugurated as a step to launch the Five-Year Economic Development Plan. A total of 16,244 youths will be mobilized between March 15 to April 15 into various projects such as construction of dams, highways, railroads and public works for the year. Most of the components of the corps will come from draft evaders and others who failed to complete their military service, while staff members will be enlisted from military servicement now in reserve duty. The members of the corps will be multiplied year by year until 1966. Some 64,500 youths are subject to the service of which 51,600 have registered. The 16,244 corps members are to be organized into 4 branch divisions and will construct dams at Namkang River, the Kyungpuk and Chungsan railroads, the Ulsan industrial complex and other projects.

North-South Joint Music Concert Held in Tokyo

On Feb. 15 Korean musicians residing in Japan held their first North-South Joint Music Concert at the Bunkyo Municipal Hall in Tokyo. The concert backed by the Korean Residents Cultural Council for Promoting Unification and North-South Cultural Exchange packed the house with audiences of both colors. The curtain was raised by solos sung by vocalists. The concert reached its heights as the residential orchestra played national music employing Korean instruments and the audience was greatly pleased. Although there have been various joint cultural and artistic performances and exhibitions held by North and South scholars and artists residing in Japan so far, an independent concert involving musicians of both North and South have never been staged before. The success of the performance has encouraged local musicians to continue the cooperation.

20,150 Households to Immigrate in 5 Years

On Feb. 20 the Supreme Council passed a bill on immigration submitted by the Health and Social Affairs Ministry. The bill is designed to curb the population explosion and relieve unemployment. According to the bill, 20,150 households are to be settled in 8 countries, namely, British Borneo, Brazil, Canada, Guatemala, the Philippines, Thailand, the United States and Africa. As recent immigration programs of over-populated countries such as Japan have not shown creditable results, the Korean public is not very willing to cooperate in the program. Meanwhile the government announced that Koreans residing abroad counted to the total of 630,079 of which the breakdown by countries and areas is as follows: Japan 610,261; South East Asia, 866; the Americas 11,279 and Europe, 57. Among those residing in the Americas, about 7,000 are living in Hawaii 2,455 in the Los Angeles area and about 400 in Cuba.

Rare Book on Korean History Uncovered in Kusheong

On Feb. 24 the Choseon Central News Agency reported from Pyongyang that an invaluable book on social science was uncovered by the employees of the National Central Library of Kusheong. The book is titled "Chuil Rok" and composed of 11 volumes. The astonishing point is that the writer of such extensive work is unknown. The book gives an analysis of the political, economic and social conditions of 18 and 19 century Korea and proposes various reformations for progress of the state as well as improvement of livelihood. The discovery of this rare book has drawn great interest in the academic circle, the report said.